

Joint Committee on Judiciary  
Legislative Office Building  
Room 2500  
Hartford CT 06106

OPPOSE AN ACT CONCERNING GUN VIOLENCE

To Whom it May Concern;

**My name is Theodore Laythe and I am a resident of Eastford, Connecticut, a member of CCDL and one of the thousands of people who will be affected by our Governor's proposed infringements upon Connecticut citizens' 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Amendment rights.** I am sad to hear that our elected officials are again calling for more gun laws. Gun Control is a failure. If it worked, elected officials would not be back here every year asking for more. When will it end? Gun Control laws haven't accomplished anything.

To make my position clear, I ask that you consider the following before your vote:

**OPPOSE** Raised S.B. No. 16 – AN ACT ADDRESSING GUN VIOLENCE  
AND JUVENILE CRIME

**OPPOSE** Raised H.B. No. 5416 – AN ACT CONCERNING BULK PURCHASES  
OF PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS

**SUPPORT** Raised S.B. No. 388 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEFENSE OF A  
PERSON OR A PERSON'S DWELLING, PLACE OF WORK OR MOTOR  
VEHICLE.

**SUPPORT** Raised H.B. No. 5415 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE TRANSFER  
OF ASSAULT WEAPONS AND LARGE CAPACITY MAGAZINES.

**SUPPORT** Raised H.B. No. 5412 – AN ACT CONCERNING THE DUTY TO  
RETREAT IN A RELIGIOUS HOUSE OF WORSHIP.

**Gun control laws will not stop crime. I am adamantly opposed to SB16 and HB5416.**

Placing restrictions on law-abiding citizens, especially women and minorities will not stop criminals. In fact, it turns law-abiding gun owners into criminals. I especially oppose the section defining "ghost guns" and redefining "assault weapons". What sense does it make to further the banning of these or changing their definition will have on the uptick in violent crime, most of which is being committed by juveniles and repeat offenders that keep being released back out to commit more crimes? I don't see them using so-called "ghost guns" or "assault weapons". I blame lax enforcement of EXISTING laws for ANY increase in crimes committed with firearms. Rather than come up with MORE laws, why don't you prosecute the felons, especially those recidivists? Preventing bulk purchases of pistols is laughable, as criminals do not follow laws. This would only affect legal gun owners from buying collections, transferring collections and other legal activities. Allowing law enforcement to ask for a permit without any suspicion of a crime, hasn't this been defeated in your chambers time and time again, including by many representatives who represent minorities? This practice is called profiling anywhere else.

I fully **SUPPORT HB388, HB5415, AND HB5412**. I find it concerning that in a nation where houses of worship are more frequently being the target of the mentally ill and the criminal minded, that we wouldn't join the rest of the nation in enabling citizens to defend themselves at church. Failure to address this and passing these bills only shows the voters of Connecticut the true intentions of those who do not support these common sense bills.

**Support of HB5415** is equally important. Anyone who already possesses an 'assault weapon' must be able to transfer their 'assault weapons' to another individual who also owns these firearms. They have had the opportunity to prove themselves over the last few decades as responsible firearm owners. Responsible gun ownership

is a figure that is growing at record rates across this country and Connecticut is no exception.

This is an election year I think I can confidently speak for all 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment supporters from all walks of life when I say that anyone who is in favor of further restrictions on the law abiding citizen, willful and misguided alike, will feel the full impact of our effort to ***VOTE THEM OUT.***

Sincerely,

Theodore Laythe

Eastford